MARC JACOBS TALKS DIET COKE AND DRESSES {page 12}

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BOSTON
Wednesday, March 13, 2013

MIT CHEER SQUAD

Brains. And beauty

▶ For the first time in 50 years, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Cheerleading Squad is headed to the national championship. Did physics help get them there? {page 04}

T workers want arrests made in assault cases

- Carmen's Union seeks action on a bill to let police arrest assault suspects rather than give a summons
- Issue reignited after driver attacked by teens {page 02}

music

SXSW: Jim James digs for gold {page 16}

sports

NFL: Free agency ramps up {page 21}

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In the news

91.7

Federal authorities recently seized equipment from a pirate radio station operating on 91.7 FM out of Brockton. The unlicensed station had its equipment seized March 1 because of a civil complaint by the FCC, the U.S. Attorney's Office said yesterday. Authorities said the station was interfering with a frequency used by pilots to talk with FAA controllers around Boston. METRO

Today's local tweet

"What a stink on the dude next to me on the train. A mix of tobacco and BO bundled up in a rat's nest of dreds. Stay classy, Boston! #mbta"

@LARRYPM3, ON THE ECLECTIC AROMAS OF THE T

News in brief

Police: Perp pilfered porterhouses

FRANKLIN. It's the case of the pilfered porterhouses.

Police in Franklin are asking for help identifying and locating a man they said visited a local grocery store this month and left with more than $300 worth of steaks that he stole.

The man walked into the Shaw's grocery store just after 5 p.m. on March 1 and left without paying for 26 porterhouse steaks, police said. The value of the steaks was about $327.

Police described the suspect as a white man who was wearing a gray sweatshirt, blue jeans and brown work boots. He had a shaved head and a goatee.

Anyone with information can call 508-440-2729. METRO

Bill would allow cops to arrest people suspected of assaulting MBTA workers, public servants

The assault of an MBTA bus driver this week by a mob of teens backs up claims by a local labor union that Transit Police should be able to arrest people suspected of assault and battery of transit workers, according to union officials.

The Boston Carmen's Union is calling for legislative action on a bill filed last year, "An Act to Authorize the Arrest for Assault and Battery on a Public Employee," which would enable police officers to make arrests based on probable cause.

Currently, Transit Police are only able to issue summons to a person suspected of assaulting a T worker.

"[Transit] workers, male and female, are on the job in the early morning hours and late into the night. They are often isolated while working in buses, trolleys and transit stations and are increasingly becoming the target of violence. It is well past time for a crackdown on the thugs that target working women and men on any public transit job," Union President John Lee said in a statement.

Last year, in response to the increasing number of violent assaults on transit workers, the union's executive board met with MBTA Police Chief Paul MacMillan and his senior officers to craft the bill.

Transit Police Superintendent-in-Chief Joseph O'Connor said the changes would be "a valuable tool" that would deter people from assaulting T workers.

"They'll see that we are making arrests in these cases and that the courts are taking these assaults seriously, " he said.

Morgan Rousseau
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NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

▶ The assault that brought the bill back into the limelight happened on the Route 16 bus over the weekend.

15

The bill came back into discussion after 15 teens attacked a 53-year-old bus driver Saturday. The suspects punched the driver and attempted to drag him through a bus window, police said.

Quoted

"I think the public generally may not know all the ins, outs and the rights and powers of officers. People are probably surprised that, in many cases, we cannot make arrests."

TRANSIT POLICE SUPERINTENDENT-IN-CHIEF JOSEPH O'CONNOR

Flower show. In full bloom

▶ This dragon made almost entirely out of flowers is just one of many items on display at the show.

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

Spring not far as Flower Show returns

If this winter's snowstorms have gotten to you, then this week offers a refuge as the Boston Flower and Garden Show returns to the city. The five-day event at the Seaport World Trade Center offers more than 20 garden displays created by professional landscapers, demonstrations by garden writers and more. The event opens today and runs through Sunday. METRO

Brigham and Women's studying overweight lesbians, thin gay men

Brigham and Women's Hospital is in the midst of a $1.5 million study to find out why nearly three-quarters of adult lesbians are overweight or obese, compared to half of heterosexual women, and why gay men are 50 percent less likely to be obese, compared to their heterosexual counterparts.

Researchers at the National Institutes of Health are funding the study with a $1.5 million grant that described obesity as "one of the most critical public health issues affecting the U.S. today," and an issue of "high public health significance," according to a report yesterday by CNS News.

The grant description goes on to say that "racial and socioeconomic disparities in the determinants, distribution and consequences of obesity are receiving increasing attention. [H]owever, one area that is only beginning to be recognized is the striking interplay of gender and sexual orientation in obesity disparities." METRO

5

The study could take as long as five years, with a start date in 2011 and an ending in June 2016.

700K

It received $778,622 for the first year and $741,378 in 2012.

$1.5M

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In the news

Hundreds rally in support of Gov. Patrick's tax plan

Hundreds of teachers, parents, small-business owners, students and senior citizens gathered at the State House yesterday in support of Gov. Deval Patrick's plan to increase taxes and spending on transportation and education.

▶ The rally was held in the Gardner Auditorium.

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

Patrick attended the rally and implored legislators to invest in education, innovation and infrastructure.

"Are we willing to make the tough choices and real investments it takes today to do better for the next generation?" Patrick said. "Almost all of us agree that the single best way to do that is by investing in education and transportation — and that requires new revenue."

After the gathering, advocates met with state representatives and senators to discuss the need for new revenue.

The rally was organized by the Campaign for Our Communities, a coalition of more than 120 organizations, as well as Bay State citizens. METRO/MR

'Bring MIT On': Techies taking science, splits to championship

▶ The MIT Cheerleading Squad refuses to be stereotyped.

MIT CHEER SQUAD

A group of students at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology is breaking down stereotypes one cheer at a time, proving that brains and pom-poms can coexist.

For the first time in the club's 50-year history, the MIT Cheerleading Squad will compete in the 2013 National Cheerleading Association Collegiate Cheer and Dance Championship to be held next month in Daytona Beach.

Traditionally, science and splits don't really go hand-in-hand, but according to MIT cheerleaders, the perky sport is actually quite physical — as in physics play a big role.

"We'll use physics to explain how to do a stunt. We are always talking about momentum and kinetic energy," said Megan Cox, 21, co-captain of the MIT Cheerleading Squad.

The co-ed team includes a mix of graduate students and undergrads, including two men, none of whom cheered before college.

But according to their coach, Arianna Vahsen-Crosby, it doesn't exactly hurt to have a squad of overachievers.

"They have never failed at anything in their lives, so I'll say, 'We'll get this next time,' and they'll tell me, 'No. We can't leave.' Their determination is something I wish every cheerleader had."

Another perk of putting together a ditz-free squad? Less cattiness.

"There is a different atmosphere than a high school cheerleading squad. Everyone is so much nicer," Cox said, adding that most MIT students are caught off-guard to learn that their classmates are rah-rah-rahing in their free time.

"A lot of people didn't know we had a squad at all, and some still don't believe us that we made it to [the championship]."

For 21-year-old co-captain Danielle Olson, a computer science student, the squad's success will hopefully help to reverse typecasting at the school.

"Being a cheerleader, being feminine, or intelligent; it doesn't have to be mutually exclusive. Hopefully we can serve as an example that people shouldn't be boxed into certain expectations."

Quoted

"Being a cheerleader, being feminine, or intelligent; it doesn't have to be mutually exclusive. Hopefully we can serve as an example that people shouldn't be boxed into certain expectations."

OLSON

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In the news

Somerville to question hotel developers

Somerville officials will this week interview four groups of developers that hope to build a hotel near Davis Square.

Four developers have proposed varying projects, but all of the proposals feature boutique-style hotels that range between 80 and 126 rooms. Some of the proposals include restaurant and retail space on the ground floor while others envision open space with public art and benches and even a gallery.

The hotel would be located on a parcel of land at Day and Herbert streets that is currently a parking lot. The developers have proposed varying purchase prices for the lot that range from $1 million to more than $2 million.

The proposals also include plans for parking -- one proposes an underground parking area with room for 60 spaces.

Somerville officials have been working on the possibility of locating a hotel in the Davis Square area since 2006. However, the process slowed about four years ago when the recession hit. The process began again with proposals for the hotel being submitted last month. The Davis Square Hotel Technical Advisory Committee is scheduled to interview the developers during a meeting Friday. The hotel could open in 2015 or 2016, according to the proposals. METRO/MN

▶ Insert hotel here?

NICOLAUS CZARNECKI/METRO

Bay State gets money from Google Street View settlement

- Mass. nets more than $300K from Internet giant
- Company grabbed info from open wireless networks

Massachusetts will receive more than $300,000 as part of a multi-state settlement with Google over the company's inappropriate data collection during work on its Street View service.

The $7 million settlement includes 37 other states and Washington, D.C., said Attorney General Martha Coakley in an announcement of the settlement yesterday. Massachusetts will receive more than $327,000.

The payment settles claims that the California-based company collected data from unsecured wireless networks nationwide while taking photographs for its Street View service over a two-year period.

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KAREN BLEIER/AFP/GETTYIMAGES

▶ If you saw this car driving down your street between 2008 and 2010, your data may have been collected.

"Google will now strengthen its privacy protocols and further educate consumers about securing their personal information while online."

ATTORNEY GENERAL MARTHA COAKLEY

Data collection

Street View cars were equipped with antennae and open-source software that collected Wi-Fi network identification information for future geolocation services.

At the same time, according to Coakley's office, Google collected and stored data frames and other "payload data" being transmitted over the unsecured business and personal wireless networks.

Typically, when such information is collected from unsuspecting users, even on an unsecured network, users have to be notified or accept a terms-of-agreement option.

Google said it was unaware of the data being collected but that it may have included any private information being transmitted while the Street View was driving in the area.

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In the news

GETTY IMAGES

Divided Senate panel votes for gun background checks

WASHINGTON. A divided Senate Judiciary Committee yesterday endorsed President Barack Obama's call to require criminal background checks for all gun buyers, yet it remained uncertain if the measure would become law.

On a party-line vote of 10-8, the Democratic-led panel sent the measure to the full Senate, where it faces a possible procedural roadblock that could kill it.

Federally registered firearm dealers are now required to run background checks on buyers. But about 40 percent of sales are made by private dealers who do not have such an obligation.

Obama proposed background checks for all gun buyers after the school massacre in Newtown, Conn., last December, which left 20 children and six adults dead. **REUTERS**

Spokesman says Obama budget likely out during week of April 8

WASHINGTON. President Barack Obama is likely to issue his budget proposal the week of April 8, White House spokesman Jay Carney said yesterday.

The president usually releases a budget proposal outlining how he would pay for his policy priorities in early February. The release of the budget has been held back this year by negotiations with Congress over tax rates and spending cuts, the White House has said. **REUTERS**

Republicans unveil plan to shrink deficit

A 10-year, $4.6 trillion balanced budget proposal unveiled by Republicans yesterday could either be shelved within weeks or help jump-start negotiations with President Obama toward a major deficit-reduction deal.

House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan's plan — his latest version of the "Path to Prosperity" measure that has been rejected by Democrats previously — likely will be approved this month by the Republican-controlled House of Representatives.

The House Republican budget "ends cronyism; eliminates waste, fraud and abuse; and returns the federal government to its proper sphere of activity," Ryan said.

The blueprint would give Republicans the bragging rights of crafting a balanced-budget plan, even if it is based on pie-in-the-sky assumptions, such as the repeal of Obama's 2010 health care overhaul.

Democrats will argue that the Ryan budget would undercut U.S. economic growth and that their alternative will more effectively create jobs in the near-term.

Another slab, totaling $931 billion over 10 years, would come from counting savings from ending the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, which is money that critics argue would not have been spent anyway, and from changing accounting methods for the cost of domestic emergencies, such as hurricane rebuilding. **REUTERS**

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Medicaid will suffer cuts under GOP plan.

$1.8T

A significant chunk of Ryan's proposed savings — about $1.8 trillion — come from the unlikely prospect of repealing the Obama health reforms.

Contrast to Democrats

With its cuts to social programs including Medicaid, which provides healthcare for the poor and some people with disabilities, the measure will stand in stark contrast to a competing 2014 budget outline that Senate Democrats will unveil this week.

Democrats plan

Democrats today will unveil a budget blueprint that attempts to slice federal deficits by $1.85 trillion over 10 years through an equal mix of spending cuts and tax increases on the rich, per a Democratic source.

- The fiscal plan, which will be debated by the Senate Budget Committee this week, is the Democrats' answer to a Republican budget set forth in the House of Representatives that claims to reach balance in 10 years through deep cuts to domestic programs and without any tax increases beyond those approved on Jan. 1.
- The plan authored by the Senate Budget Committee's Democratic chairwoman, Patty Murray, aims to speed jobs growth, calling for $100 billion in new spending on crumbling roads and bridges and worker training.
- It would also fully replace automatic spending cuts with savings elsewhere, the source said, preventing the loss of hundreds of thousands of jobs. **REUTERS**

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Troubled church starts conclave for new pope

ANDREAS SOLARO, ANDREAS SOLARO/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ U.S. representatives hold placards asking for an American pope as they wait for the results from the conclave.

Thick black smoke billowed into the night sky from the Sistine Chapel's chimney yesterday, signaling an inconclusive first vote in the conclave to elect a new pope at a time of strife and scandal for the Roman Catholic Church.

Thousands of faithful huddled in St. Peter's Square to watch the smoke pour out of the narrow flue in the rain-laden gloom following a day rich in ritual and pageantry.

After praying for divine guidance, the red-hatted cardinals took a solemn vow, in Latin, never to divulge any details of their deliberations. They then secluded themselves behind the chapel's heavy wooden doors.

No conclave in the modern era has chosen a pope on its first day, and some cardinals speculated this week that it might take four or five days to pick the man to replace Pope Benedict, who unexpectedly abdicated last month.

The so-called "Princes of the Church" spent the night in a Vatican hotel before returning to the frescoed Sistine Chapel today to continue their votes, with two rounds set for the morning and two for the afternoon.

In the meantime, their only communication with the outside world will be smoke from the Chapel chimney — black when voting sessions end with no result and white when a pontiff is elected. Whoever becomes the 266th pontiff in the Church's 2,000-year history will face an array of problems, including sex-abuse scandals, infighting within the bureaucracy and the spread of secularism. **REUTERS**

Do Androids dream of toppling iPads?

Shipments of Apple Inc.'s iPads will fall behind the growing variety of tablets running Google Inc.'s Android platform for the first time this year IDC said. iPad shipments are expected to account for 46 percent of the market in 2013, IDC said. Devices running Android are expected to grow their market share to 49 percent. **REUTERS**

$7M

Google Inc. will pay $7 million to 38 states and the District of Columbia to settle an investigation into a controversial incident in which its Street View mapping cars collected passwords and other personal data from home wireless networks between 2008 and 2010. **REUTERS**

24

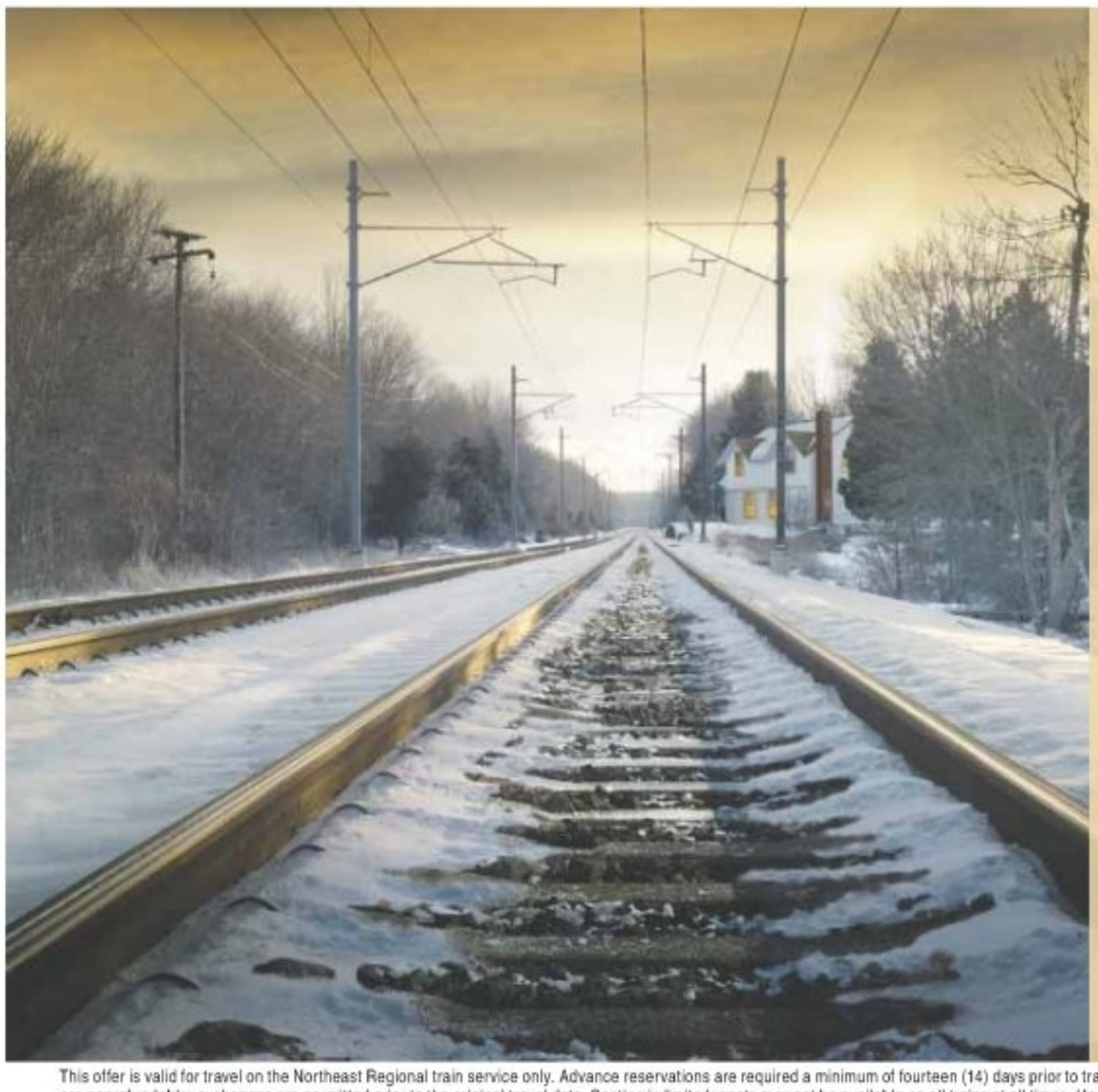
THE DAY'S NEWS AT A GLANCE

"This bill is about three simple things: It's about love, it's about family and it's about equality under the law."

COLORADO HOUSE SPEAKER MARK FERRANDINO, A GAY DEMOCRAT AND A SPONSOR OF A PASSED BILL ALLOWING SAME-SEX CIVIL UNIONS IN THE STATE

Venezuela to probe cancer 'poisoning' accusation

Venezuela will set up a formal inquiry into suspicions that the late President Hugo Chavez's cancer was the result of poisoning by his enemies abroad. The accusation has been derided by critics of the government, who view it as a typical Chavez-style conspiracy theory intended to feed fears of "imperialist" threats to the socialist system. Still, acting President Nicolas Maduro vowed to push through a serious investigation into the claim. "We will seek the truth," Maduro told Telesur. "We have the intuition that our commander Chavez was poisoned by dark forces that wanted him out of the way." **REUTERS**



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myentertainment

THE WORD

Meredith Engel's take on the world of gossip @meredithatmetro meredith.engel@metro.us

– Dorothy Robinson will return March 20.

▶ Want to get in on the action, ironically or not? Lil Jon brings his moves to Boston on April 9.

SETH BROWARNIK/WORLDREDEYE.COM

Lil Jon wants to rock your next Zumba class

When **Lil Jon** told us he was gonna move "till the sweat drops down" to a specific place near his own "lil jon," as it were, we had no idea he was talking about getting low in a Zumba class. But apparently the rapper is a big fan of the fitness craze (or just really short on cash) and has signed on to DJ Zumba classes across the country as part of a new Zumba Nightclub Series. Lil Jon will spin on the turntables while celebrity instructor Gina Grant leads a workout. Oh, and don't hit the radio for Lil Jon's new single, "Work" — it was created especially for Zumba and will be the official theme song for the nightclub series tour, complete with dance moves.

As Metro's resident fitness test dummy, I admit this class does sound tantalizing. But I will only partake under the following conditions: 1. I get to rehydrate with crunk juice instead of water; 2. All participants get to shout "OH-KAY!" and "YAY-UH!" whenever they please.

Butler not good with names

I'm not sure why I'm so fascinated by the hookup between **Gerard Butler** and **Brandi Glanville**. Maybe it's because she's so low on the celebrity totem pole, and he's just a few notches higher. (That's what starring opposite **Jennifer Aniston** in a rom-com will do to your career.) Or maybe it's because he just told **Howard Stern** that he had "wild" sex with the reality star, then forgot her name when a paparazzo approached him about the tryst. Always a gent, Butler explained himself to Stern. "I said: 'Who's Brandi Glanville?' Because, 1. I didn't know her last name; and 2. I didn't know she was a celebrity, and I didn't know she was going to f—king tell people about it!"

What a coincidence: Butler has no trouble forgetting the women he's slept with, and we have no trouble forgetting the movies he's appeared in.

Butler

GETTY IMAGES

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Today, Michael Caine is celebrating, Ricky Martin is worried, Bill Maher is excited about getting a new pope and Kelly Clarkson can't believe what her body can't handle.

@themichaelcaine
Thank You for your kind Birthday messages. Will blow the candles off

@ricky_martin
Of all the "Trending News" out there, the one that I really care and I'm concerned about is North Korea.

@billmaher
Papal conclave has begun! So exciting, like the Oscars all over again- we all want to know: Who will win, and who's dress will he be wearing?

@kelly_clarkson
I just found out I'm allergic to Golden Rod .....c'mon that has to be fake haha. It's sounds like an adult movie, not a weed!

Clarkson

Talking points

Gomez ready to grow up

As her new movie "Spring Breakers" suggests, former "Witches of Waverly Place" star **Selena Gomez** is eager to cut ties with her Disney past. "Disney is a machine, and I'm grateful for it, but I feel like being part of that environment made me crave the reaction from other projects even more," Gomez tells The New York Times. "Creatively, this is where I wanted to go." The racy, violent film features Gomez and former "High School Musical" star **Vanessa Hudgens** as coeds who rob a diner to fund a wild week in Florida.

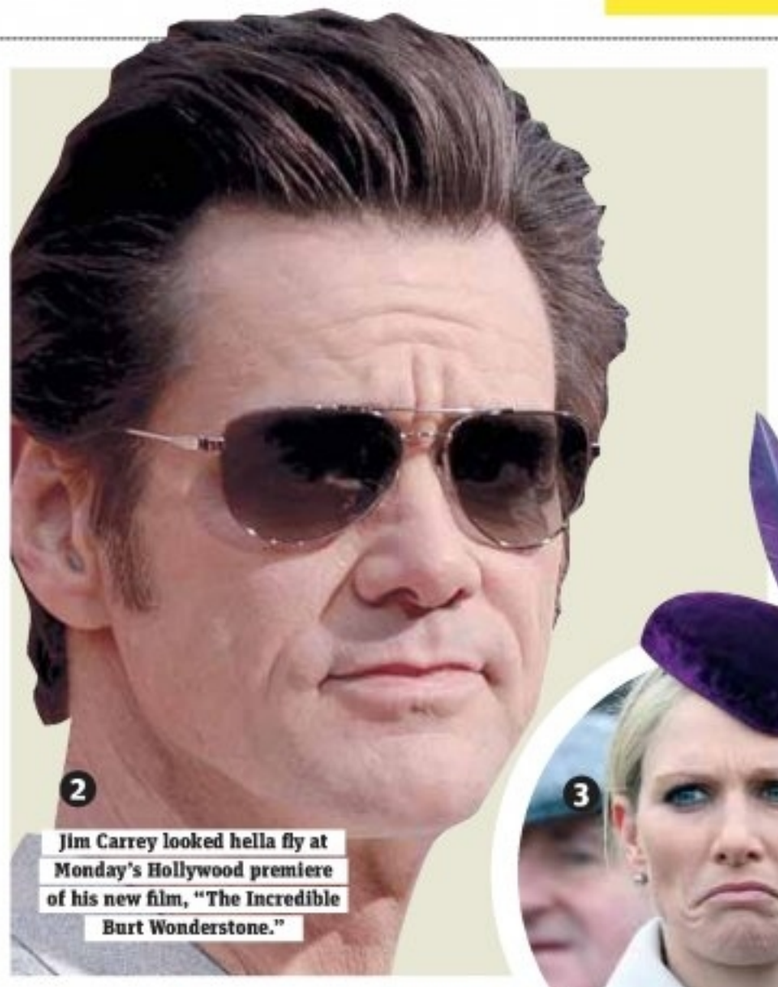
▶ Gomez

If Wilde has ugly days, we're all screwed

Olivia Wilde says fiance **Jason Sudeikis** is "the great love of my life," but when she first started falling for him she worried the "Saturday Night Live" star's feelings wouldn't be mutual. "I thought, 'He won't be interested in me; I'm not a contender,'" she tells Marie Claire. "He was so cool, so funny — I was such a fan of his and had always fancied his speed and his intelligence. He's a brilliant actor with a brain like lightning. I thought, 'I'm not beautiful enough or his type.'"

Stop getting those One Direction tattoos already

The boys in **One Direction** clearly love tattoos, considering how many they've added to their bodies in the past year — but apparently they're learning to draw the line. Their reps deleted a post to the boy band's Twitter account asking fans to submit photos of their own ink to win tickets to see the band's upcoming 3-D movie. "This tweet was posted in error and has now been removed," a rep tells the BBC. "One Direction does not want to encourage any of their fans to get 1D tattoos."



Jim Carrey looked hella fly at Monday's Hollywood premiere of his new film, "The Incredible Burt Wonderstone."

The British are coming (to fight drugs)

1: Russell Brand and **Mitch Winehouse** launched the Amy Winehouse Foundation Drugs Resilience program in U.K. schools yesterday in London.

3: Looks like **Zara Phillips'** horse didn't do very well on day one of the Cheltenham Festival at Cheltenham Racecourse yesterday in England.

4: Director **Joseph Gordon-Levitt** (dang, it feels good to type that) introduced his film "Don Jon's Addiction" during SXSW in Austin, Texas, on Monday.

5: Journey lead singer **Arnel Pineda** gave some love to the camera onstage in Osaka, Japan, yesterday.

6: "Girls" star **Allison Williams**, daughter of **Brian**, had a laugh at the Elvis Duran and the Morning Show studios yesterday in NYC.

1: EAMONN MCCORMACK/GETTY IMAGES
2: KEVIN WINTER/GETTY
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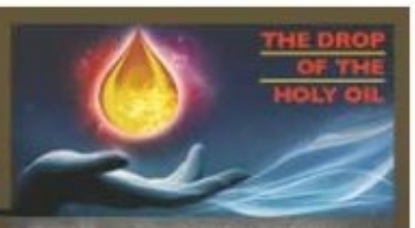

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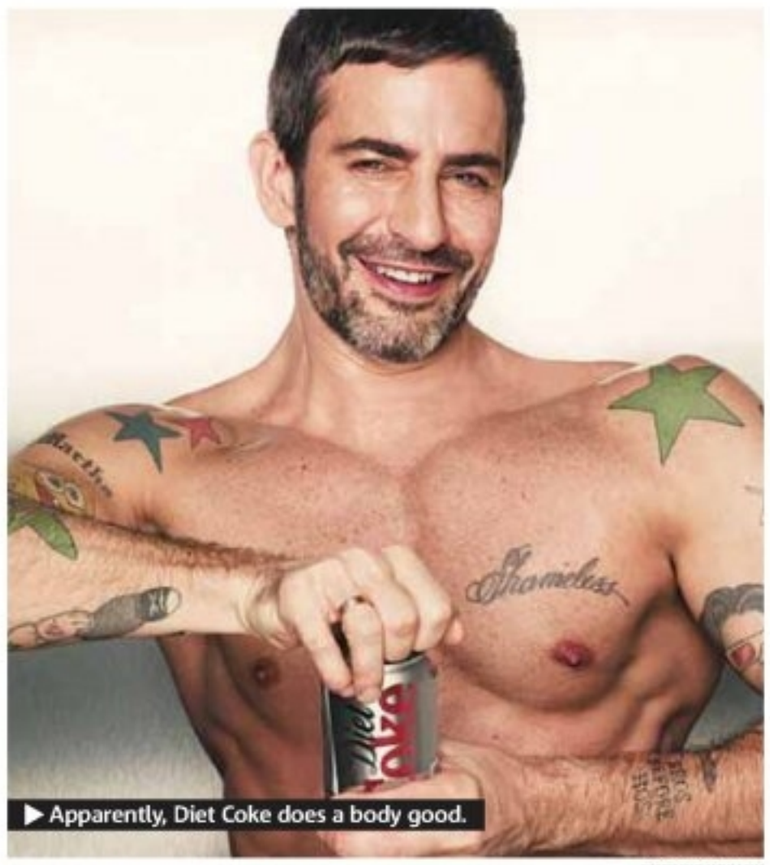
Marc Jacobs: Sex and soda

Diet Coke wraps its bottles in designs helmed by the new creative director to mark its 30 year anniversary



▶ Apparently, Diet Coke does a body good.

STEPHANE SEDNAOUI

Next month you'll turn 50. What do you have planned for your midlife crisis?

My midlife crisis has been going on for 20 years. I don't see it as a crisis at all. I think it's quite an adventure. I'm not going to buy a Corvette or anything like that — I guess that's someone else's midlife crisis.

You seem to enjoy wearing some pretty outrageous outfits, like that pink shirt dress. Do you enjoy getting dressed up?

I do enjoy it. I love attention. I'm very honest about it. There were years when I just didn't want to do press, and I didn't really care about my appearance; I sort of shied away from things like that. But in order to enjoy [press events], I have to be me and sometimes that means wearing a pink dress, a lace dress or a kilt. Also, I feel like I need to relate to that ritual of going shopping. I think being connected to that makes me a better designer: It's sort of like practicing what you preach. I wouldn't really be doing my job if I didn't do that.

What's your relationship with Kate Moss like?

Kate Moss? She just texted me. We've been on holiday together. We were in Ibiza a few years ago with her daughter [Lila Grace], [photographers] Mert [Alas] and Marcus [Piggott] and some friends. I've spent a great deal of time with Kate over the years; we genuinely like each other — we just click.

She regularly closes your show. Do you ask her, or vice-versa?

It works both ways. She's expressed interest and of course, I've expressed interest. Over the past few years, it's kind of like the [Louis] Vuitton show is the only show she'll do. It's kind of just become this thing.

Your Louis Vuitton shows contain sexual undertones. How does sex influence your work?

Sex is a big part of my life. It's a very big part of most people's lives, whether they want to admit it or not. I don't know, sometimes when collections feel more personal there's more of an undercurrent of things that are of an emotional nature. When I dream, there's this darkness, this melancholy side, there's this sexual tension and then there's this kind of identity thing that goes on: an element of role-play and honesty. In the collections that I feel most proud of, there are personal feelings and emotions that make it human.

Speaking of sex, you're in great shape and so is Tom Ford. Who's the bigger stud?

I don't compete with Tom Ford. Tom's a friend of mine and I think he's terrific. He's a great-looking guy and all of that, but I certainly don't set out to compete with Tom. [Laughs] I wouldn't compare anything of mine to anything of his.

Cigarettes, coffee and Diet Coke — would that you say you've got an addictive personality?

Let's not put cigarettes in the same category as Diet Coke. Smoking is my bad habit, I'd say. It's my biggest vice. I don't recommend it.

On his work

- **How does the inspiration differ between your Marc Jacobs and Louis Vuitton lines?**
  The N.Y. collection is very personal to my life growing up in New York. My collection in Paris is a bit more of a fantasy life: that of being a French designer and working with the ateliers of Paris — it feels like I'm looking in on a different world.
- **Are there too many designer collaborations?**
  No, no. If nobody had any interest in designers doing bottles, then Diet Coke wouldn't ask designers to do it. It's about supply and demand.
- **Are fashion houses creating too many collections?**
  It is too much, but I don't participate in all of it to the same degree. I know when I'm most needed and that's when I rise to the occasion. I don't think any one person does do that much. They might say that they do, but they don't.

Richard Peckett
METRO WORLD NEWS

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PHOTODISC

▶ You can expect video ads on Facebook by April.

Facebook video ads are on their way

Facebook video ads are coming to your News Feed — it's just a matter of when.

AdAge reported in mid-December that Facebook was planning to introduce a new ad product "by April at the latest" that would let marketers target video ads in users' News Feeds on desktop and mobile devices.

According to that report, the ads would max out at 15 seconds and start playing automatically in the feed.

Rory Maher, an analyst with Hillside Partners, said last month that Facebook was "beta testing a video ad product," which could be released in the first half of this year. And Facebook's top ad exec David Fischer confirmed in a recent interview that the company was "certainly looking" at the option of introducing video ad units.

Facebook took a big step this week toward paving the way for video ads with the redesign of News Feed. The overhauled look places much more emphasis on visual content. Marketers we spoke with believe it will give them more room to create richer and larger ad units, including videos.

If your first reaction to video ads in your News Feed is another F-word besides Facebook, you're probably not alone.

"Facebook knows that they can't alienate users and continue to grow at the rate they are. That's why we've seen them be cautious in rolling out monetization products," says Clark Fredricksen, an analyst with eMarketer. "It's my guess that we'll see something similar here."

So can Facebook place video ads in News Feed without angering or alienating its users?

Quoted

"Facebook knows that they can't alienate users and continue to grow at the rate they are. That's why we've seen them be cautious in rolling out monetization products."

FREDRICKSEN

The short answer is that Facebook does some version of this already. Brands and marketers have the option to post videos to the social network, which they can pay to promote as an ad. These are not preroll ads or auto-playing ads, or even the kind of pop-out ads you see on other websites — but they are video ads nonetheless.

AdWeek said on Thursday that Facebook now has a team of 150 employees working to build video tools that might make it easier for media companies to deliver more videos on the site and perhaps even place preroll ads in these clips. In this sense, Facebook would be following the YouTube model for video ad delivery.

There are limits to what users can and will accept on Facebook, however, and the company seems to be aware of it. Fischer, the Facebook VP, said as much in an interview at a media conference last month.

SETH FIEGERMAN FOR Mashable The Social Media Guide

Technology news

Could this be Samsung's Galaxy S IV?

SAMSUNG

▶ Now you see it?

New images from a Chinese forum, unearthed by Sammy Hub, might be showing Samsung's upcoming flagship Android smartphone, the Galaxy S IV.

The device in the photos is marked GT-I9502, and looks very similar to Samsung Galaxy S III. Screenshots from the Antutu hardware test application show that it's rocking a quad-core 1.8GHz processor, a 1080p display, 13-megapixel camera and 2GB of RAM.

The Samsung Galaxy S IV is due to be unveiled tomorrow in New York. Previous rumors about the device's hardware sound similar to the specifications listed above, with one notable exception — we've heard that the Galaxy S IV will be powered by an 8-core processor. STAN SCHROEDER/MASHABLE

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myentertainment

Hanging up his Morning Jacket for a solo outfit

With three important shows at SXSW this week, Jim James talks about launching his new solo project and reflects on past visits to the Austin music conference

▶ Jim James is no longer just the dude with the guitar who happens to be in front of the microphone, he's now a solo singer! Seek out his performance on "Late Night with Jimmy Fallon," pictured here.

SXSW

NOLAN GAWRON
TWITTER: @METROUSMUSIC

With My Morning Jacket taking a brief break, the prolific Jim James is trying something different with his recent solo album. "Regions of Light and Sound of God," released last month, seems and sounds as though divine intervention has led the songwriter to new sonic soil.

Playing almost all of the instruments on the record, this isn't your traditional stripped-down solo journey, but instead an epic musical onslaught that sounds as though a dozen people contributed to the final product.

Taking his new tunes on the road, James has built a quartet comprised of fellow Louisvillians to help rebuild the audio architecture of the solo record in a live setting. After catching his first few shows in NYC last month, my skepticism quickly turned to satisfaction as the new band delivered some magical moments that not only gave life to the album, but took the songs to another level.

Focusing primarily on electronics, James' band fills the instrumental backdrop while he mans the mic, taking on the role of the traditional frontman, and occasionally picking up random and often unlikely instruments.

While My Morning Jacket are no strangers to SXSW, James makes his first appearance at the festival this week as a solo act. MMJ's first trip to Austin came early in their career, and James is quick to note the benefits of playing the festival back then.

"The year was 1914," James says in jest. "The first settlers had just come onto the Austin shore. Alongside other explorers like us who had heard about the legend of gold in them rolling hills and mountain ranges of downtown Austin, we rolled into town just before dawn on March 13 of that year and took up shop at the Pecan Street Ale House … or was it Urban Outfitters … or was it Yard Dog? It's hard to say, the memory starts to slip with time and age and you have to brush those cobwebs away."

All jokes aside, the venues and day of the month are real, but the year was 2002 and SXSW became one of the band's first shows outside of Europe and Kentucky.

"It's all strange and wonderful," says James. "I mean, we've worked our asses to the bone over the years and it feels good when you chase a dream and see some progress on that front. It's very exciting and we are very grateful to the universe to have been allowed to make some progress on our dreams."

*—Follow **Nolan Gawron** on Twitter: @metrousmusic. Check www.metro.us for his updates on the best of SXSW.*

'True destiny' on the line

Since their SXSW debut, My Morning Jacket has only played the festival one other time — in 2008. They went from being unknown hopefuls in 2002, to being one of the SXSW's main attractions six years later while previewing their album, "Evil Urges."

So what is Jim looking forward to seeing this year?

"My true destiny," he says.

— Jim James plays three shows at SXSW and participates in a panel discussion and a non-SXSW-affiliated benefit show at Willie Nelson's Ranch.

Quoted

"I mean, we've worked our asses to the bone over the years, and it feels good when you chase a dream and see some progress on that front."

JAMES

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theater & arts guide

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Bryan Singer takes on a 'Giant' job: Kid stuff

DANIEL SMITH

▶ Bryan Singer on the set for "Jack the Giant Slayer."

With "Jack the Giant Slayer," director Bryan Singer finds himself facing a whole new audience: kids. But while he admits the film has gone through a softening in both its title and the amount of onscreen violence, Singer insists he's digging playing for the younger crowd. But he's even more excited about getting back into the X-Men franchise with the currently in-development "X-Men: Days of Future Past."

It felt like there was a more violent version of this movie just a few frames away. Was there a lot you had to change to scale it back for a family-friendly audience?

A change that I wish could've been in there is when [a giant] picks up [Ewan Bremner] and bites his head off. We had it where he actually put the guy's head in his mouth and chomped it. And you know, I would've been happy to see that stay in. I thought it was kind of funny. I sat and watched it in a theater full of 7-year-olds, 8-year-olds, and they were [screaming], but you know, nobody walked out. But there was just so much fear on the part of the studio, and I was like, "All right, fine. Cut the few frames." But I think the kids could've taken it.

How terrifying is it to sit in a screening room full of 7-year-olds?

With this movie it has been fun. I love testing, I think it's a great experience. The kid behind me was kicking my seat, he was laughing so hard. But at first it can be intimidating, I guess.

Ned Ehrbar
METRO WORLD NEWS

Q&A

Can you talk about how "Days of Future Past" will mix actors from the different time periods of the [X-Men] franchise?

Um, I can't. I can't talk about that, but it does! [Laughs] So I am able to accommodate both casts in a really fun and interesting way, a really cool way. I love the actors in the new cast, and as a producer I was instrumental in casting them, but I never had the opportunity to work with them as director, so I get to do that now. And in the development of the script, it's interesting. Stuff comes to me a lot faster than it does on other films. So either it's something about the [X-Men] universe that I get more than other things, or maybe it's just that I'm more experienced and I have an instinct about it.

TV watch list

MONTY BRINTON/CBS

▶ The cast of "Survivor" is all smiles here, but not for long.

'Survivor'

REALITY. Experience a "Survivor" first when one contestant has a total meltdown. Be on the look-out for animated GIFs by the end of the week. **8 p.m., CBS**

'Haunted Collector'

REALITY. Paranormal investigators weigh in on one of humanity's oldest questions: Is my stuff haunted? **9 p.m., Syfy**

'Kimora: House of Fab'

REALITY. Get the inside scoop on the too-everything Kimora Lee Simmons, who helms the online fashion service House of Fab. **9 p.m., Style**

'Not My Mama's Meals'

REALITY. Chef Bobby Deen concocts healthier versions of his famous mother's decadent dishes. **9 p.m., Cooking**

NATALIE SHURE

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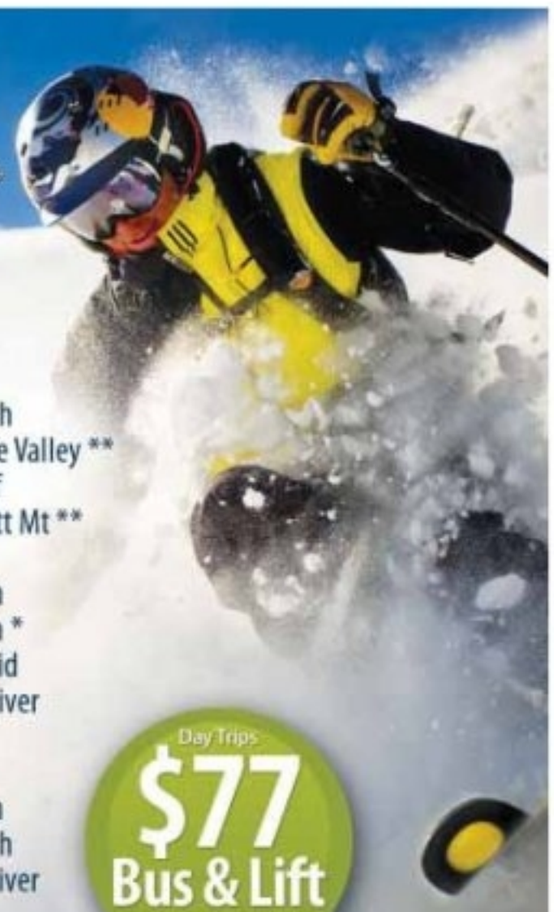

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2/2	Sunday River	3/3	Sugarbush
2/3	Killington	3/3	Waterville Valley **
2/6	Mount Snow *	3/8-10	Sugarloaf
2/8-10	Stowe	3/8	Wachusett Mt **
2/9	Stowe	3/9	Stowe
2/10	Sunday River	3/10	Killington
2/10	Waterville Valley **	3/13	Killington *
2/13	Killington *	3/15-17	Lake Placid
2/15-17	Sunday River	3/16	Sunday River
2/16	Sunday River	3/17	Stowe
2/17	Jay Peak	3/23	Jay Peak
2/22-24	Sugarloaf	3/24	Killington
2/23	Stowe	3/29-31	Sugarbush
2/24	Killington	3/30	Sunday River
2/27	Mount Snow *	3/31	Stowe

APRIL	
4/5-7	Sunday River
4/6	Jay Peak
4/7	Sunday River
4/13	Jay Peak
4/14	Killington

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5 Ways to avoid colon cancer

March is dedicated to your large intestine ◗ How to reduce your risk of developing cancer ◗ Genetics aren't everything

We carry around about 20-25 feet of intestine, and yet, until something goes wrong, we are oblivious to it. Therein lies the colon, which removes our body's waste. March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month, which aims to draw attention to this crucial part of the body's digestive system. Of the approximately 150,000 cases of colorectal cancer diagnosed in the U.S. annually, about 50,000 are fatal, according to the American Cancer Society. We asked Dr. Giancarlo Mercogliano, the chief of gastroenterology for Philly's Main Line Health System, for his tips on how to avoid those statistics by living a healthier life.

▶ If you're turning 50 this year, schedule a colonoscopy. For more information, visit www.stopcoloncancernow.com.

DIGITAL VISION

Maintain a healthy weight: "Being overweight is linked to colon cancer," Dr. Mercogliano says. "We are not sure of a direct link or whether that's because an overweight person has an unhealthy diet. But keeping weight in check is important."

Change your lifetyle

"Smoking promotes all cancers and that includes colon cancer. Also, exercise that benefits the whole body benefits the colon."

Eat less meat: "The Western high-fat, high-meat diet is linked with colon cancer. In Africa, where many people eat a mostly vegetarian diet, there is less incidence of colon cancer. In Asia, too, where less meat is eaten, there is less incidence."

Take your vitamins: "Vitamin D, calcium and folic acid have been shown quite clearly to prevent colon cancer. Aspirin too: The data is conflicting, but in one study, aspirin seemed to shrink polyps, which are thought to be precancerous."

Limit your alcohol intake: "Moderate drinking might be healthy — that's small, specified doses. While drinking a glass of red wine has been shown to be healthy, [more than that] is not."

Linda Clarke
letters@metro.us

One young woman's cause

"When I was diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer at 28, I

didn't react 'normally' — I wasn't mad, sad or scared," says Gloria Borges, founder of The Wunder Project to fund colon cancer research. "Instead, I made it a challenge — and despite the odds, I was ready to beat cancer. I started a blog detailing my cancer-killing adventures, and with support I founded a colon cancer nonprofit. My focus now is finding the cure through **The Wunder Project (www.thewunderproject.org)**, a methodical and cutting-edge research initiative led by myself and my world-renowned oncologist. It will start with raising $250 million and will end with the cure for colon cancer."

Get checked out

"Colon cancer is the third leading cancer killer in both men and women," reports Dr. David Robbins, a gastroenterologist at the Manhattan Endoscopy Center.

- "It can be detected at a very early stage with a brief, painless test called a colonoscopy. Catching colon cancer early gives doctors an excellent shot at curing this often-preventable cancer."
- Getting a colonoscopy is no big deal: There are alternatives to the typical liquid preparation, you're under anesthesia the whole time and patients can usually go home the same day.
- The American Cancer Society recommends colonoscopy screening starting at age 50. But people at greater risk — such as those with a family history and African-Americans — should begin at age 45 or earlier.
- "Most insurance covers colonoscopy screening at age 50," says Dr. Robbins. "If you are 65 or older, a colonoscopy is covered by Medicare."

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Medical tests you need at every age

In your 20s:

Men & Women:

- **Blood pressure:** "Everyone should get their blood pressure tested. How often depends on the result: certainly during your annual physical; if it's higher more often than that."
- **Diabetes:** "Two-thirds of adults are overweight and possibly prediabetic."
- **Skin cancer:** "Do regular self-exams [and] look for any changes. See your doctor if you're concerned."
- **HIV:** "Everyone should get tested at least once in their lives, especially when you're young."

Women:

- **Cervical cancer:** "Twenty-one is the recommended age to start pap smears."

Men:

- **Testicular cancer:** "The American Cancer Society recommends age 20."

In your 30s, add:

Men & Women:

- **Cholesterol:** "Anyone at risk should start in their 20s, but for everyone by age 35 it's more essential."
- **Glaucoma:** "There are no symptoms, but if you lose your sight from glaucoma, it doesn't come back."
- **Thyroid:** "Testing is becoming more common, especially for women. The thyroid regulates metabolism and just about everything in the body."

Women:

- **HPV:** "Many women test positive in their 20s and it goes away. In your 30s, conditions should be monitored."

40s & older, add:

Men & Women:

- **Colorectal cancer:** "At age 50, the ACS recommends colorectal screening."

Women:

- **Breast cancer:** "There's some controversy, but the ACS says at age 40 women should start mammograms every other year. Talk to your doctor about when to start testing."
- **Osteoporosis:** "It's generally [by] age 50. Sometimes women with a family history get tested earlier."

Men:

- **Prostate cancer:** "Begin the discussion with your doctor at age 50. But men at high risk begin in their 40s."

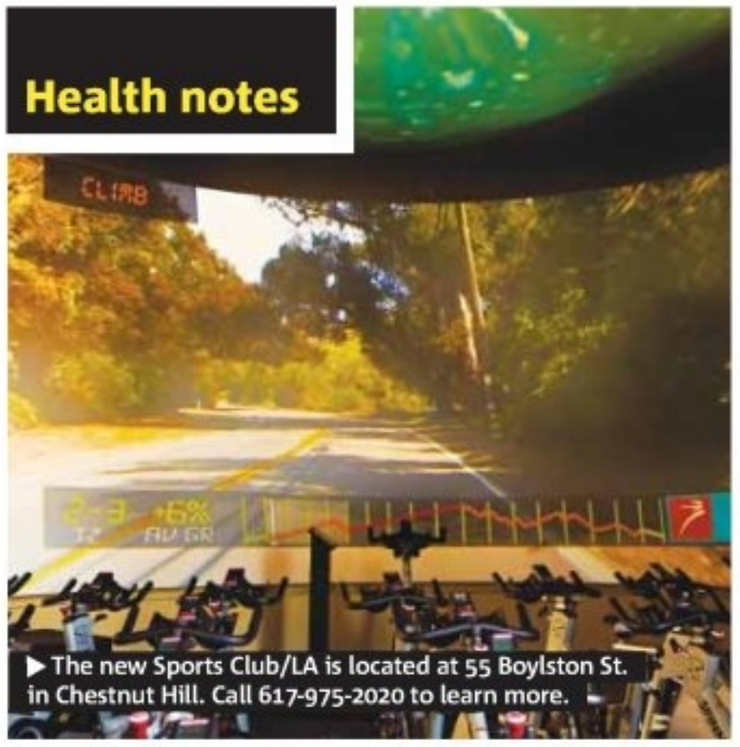
STOCKBYTE

▶ Keep communication lines open with your doc.

Screening is an important part of preventive health care. Good results mean you can keep up what you're doing; not-so-good ones give you a chance to make changes. We asked Dr. Michael Smith, chief medical editor of WebMD.com, which tests the average person needs and when.

Linda Clarke
letters@metro.us

Health notes



▶ The new Sports Club/LA is located at 55 Boylston St. in Chestnut Hill. Call 617-975-2020 to learn more.

Now open

Our ears perked up when we heard that the Sports Club/LA was opening what it's calling "an unrivaled sensory, fitness experience" in Chestnut Hill. Turns out the new club is pretty swanky: it features a glass-enclosed cycling studio with simulated rides projected on IMAX screens, fitness equipment that is so tech-advanced that it works with you to set your goals and save your workouts, plus sunlit yoga and Pilates studios. Bring the kids — child care is also available. **MEREDITH ENGEL**

Today in medicine

Labels do deceive

Location of study: U.S.
Study subjects: 132 college students
Results: A study from Cornell University found that consumers see a candy bar as healthier when its calorie label is the color green instead of red, even though the calorie counts are the same.
Significance: Don't let green (or other Earth-toned) packaging fool you: Check nutrition labels to get the full story on what you're eating. **METRO**

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Letters

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Business not the only thing worth investing in

On March 27, our Congress has to pass a funding bill for the remainder of 2013. The House has just passed a bill that would keep the sequester in place, and without any changes from the Senate, this permanent sequester will have severe consequences for the National Institutes of Health. While some argue that the sequester is not really a cut, the NIH will actually experience a 5.1 percent budget cut ($1.6 billion) as the NIH budgets have been flat over the past five years. As a concerned biomedical science graduate student, a NIH reduction will make it more difficult in my research on how to better activate killer T cells and their use in fighting cancer. Additionally, a failure to continue to invest in the NIH will hinder the development of new disease treatments and also negatively impact job development. Both Eric Cantor and Nancy Pelosi see the value in science funding and I urge Congress to find a way to blunt the impact of the sequester on the NIH.

SHAUN O'BRIEN, VIA E-MAIL

Pet sellers have gone to the dogs

Few people know that 98 percent to 100 percent of all pet store puppies come from inhumane, often criminally abusive puppy mills. The USDA licenses puppy mills and can barely keep up with annual inspections. It also lacks the authority to shut down even the worst of them. Violations are rampant, and dogs that no longer churn out litters are killed or sold at auctions. Need proof? USDA inspection reports are online or simply Google puppy mills. Online-only sellers are completely unregulated — and it shows.

KRISTIE VANN, VIA E-MAIL

Wishing for a quick and decisive trial

So Osama's son-in-law Sulaiman Abu Ghaith is to be tried in New York on terror charges, plus conspiring to wreak havoc on New York City. Please, prosecutors, don't screw this up! At the very least, just try him and fry him!

HERB STARK, VIA E-MAIL

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words.
Metro reserves the right to edit all letters.
Please include your name and contact information.

Quoted

"Nice article on the 'Wizard of Oz' history. However, how could you overlook the 1985 movie release of 'Return to Oz'? I know it didn't too well at the time with critics and viewers, but it has gathered a cult status. This movie is a more faithful adaption of the novels than the classic from 1939."

JIM MCALLISTER, VIA E-MAIL, RE: "FOLLOW THE YELLOW BRICK ROAD TO OZ" (METRO, MARCH 8-10)

Horoscope

♓ Pisces **Feb. 20-March 20.** You are presently in a positive cycle in terms of your financial affairs. You might even acquire something that was long overdue.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** One of the best ways to get your co-workers' cooperation is to make sure that what's good for you can be great for them as well. It's one of the keys to success.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** Rather than vying for center stage, keep a low profile, especially if you've been given a key role to play. It's the best way to get the acknowledgment that you crave.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** If you want some interesting things to occur in your social life, you can't wait for the right people to come to you. Seek them out yourself and, in a nice way, make your presence felt.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** One of the best ways to deal with a competitive situation is to take more positive action than your adversaries do. Keep an optimistic, proactive frame of mind, and you'll come out ahead.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Examine all new endeavors not merely for what they can do for you immediately, but how they can enhance your future. When you look ahead, make sure all the pieces fit together.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Sometimes we find ourselves in the excellent position of being able to reap a harvest from seeds we haven't sown. This might be your scenario today, so be alert for such an opportunity.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** Snap judgments you arrive at might not be as perceptive as those of your mate's. Listen to his or her input, which could provide you with some alternatives that you haven't considered.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** The amount of zeal you display while working on a job is likely to set the tone that others will follow. If you want everything to unobtrusively buzz along, maintain an accelerated pace.

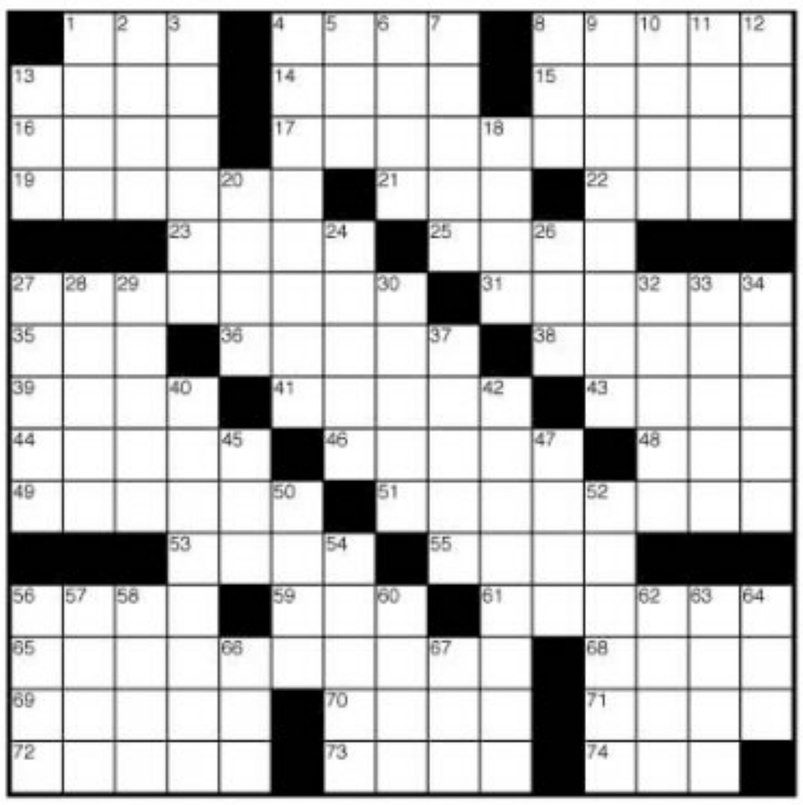
♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** You are likely to have more fun and feel more comfortable in a small gathering than in a large group. Try to stay within your comfort zone

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** If your primary goal is to amply provide for those you love, you'll make sure that this objective is met, no matter what the day may throw at you.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** You should pay attention to intuition that tells you the proper course of action to take. Any afterthoughts will be less accurate, and land you on the rocks. BERNICE BEDE OSOL

Across
1 Compete for
4 Brass component
8 Snake plate
13 Cuzco locale
14 Inventor's spark
15 Croesus' conquest
16 Deg. holder
17 Toast spreads
19 Soak up
21 Quagmire
22 AMEX rival
23 Interstate
25 Non-clerical
27 Fixed up
31 Casual top (hyph.)
35 Blue or green
36 Win every game
38 Copier need
39 Purple flower
41 Ant
43 Tempo
44 Sniffed at
46 Flies alone
48 Vote against
49 High regard
51 Posers
53 Erelong
55 B'way postings of yore
56 — Wooley's "The Purple People Eater"
59 PC key
61 Joke response (3 wds.)
65 Word lovers
68 Pakistani's tongue
69 Secret romance
70 Gave temporarily
71 Numskull
72 Heroic tale
73 Chop —
74 Tribute in verse

Down
1 "Make" or "break"
2 Pension accts.
3 Author — Welty
4 Rhodesia, now
5 Potato st.
6 Foam-ball brand
7 Dromedary
8 — vous plait
9 Newscaster's partner
10 Warhol or Rooney
11 More than fibs
12 Soothe
13 Woods' org.
18 Premed course
20 Thieves
24 Regards as
26 Hobby ender
27 Dry white wine
28 Lira replacer
29 Bank job
30 Promo tapes
32 Ludicrous
33 Pave over
34 Cards above deuces
37 Throws rocks
40 Attend to (2 wds.)
42 Full of gift shops
45 Hibernate
47 Urban woe
50 Gauzy-winged insect
52 False
54 Hardware buy
56 Smelting waste
57 Back from work
58 Id companions
60 Gourmet cheese
62 Walked heavily
63 Not working
64 Egyptian boy-king
66 Opposite of "post"
67 Hydrocarbon suffix



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6					5			9
	7	3	6			5	1	
						7	6	
		6	4		7	8		
	3	8						
	5	7			6	9	8	
4			3					7
			7		9	6		

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

		1			7	3		
				1	2			8
2				3		5	7	
			1				9	3
7			3		5			6
4	6				9			
	4	6		5				9
3			8	9				
		5	4			6		

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Solution to yesterday's crossword

O	L	D	P	R	O	■	T	A	T	■	W	A	S	P
S	T	I	L	E	S	■	A	N	E	■	I	T	C	H
A	D	D	A	M	S	■	R	N	A	■	S	T	O	A
■	■	■	Q	U	A	N	T	U	M	L	E	A	P	S
Z	U	L	U	S	■	I	A	M	■	A	G	R	E	E
I	R	A	E	■	R	E	N	■	F	S	U	■	■	■
L	I	B	■	M	O	C	■	K	A	T	Y	D	I	D
L	A	O	■	E	Y	E	■	A	C	E	■	U	M	A
S	H	R	I	E	K	S	■	R	E	D	■	L	P	N
■	■	■	T	K	O	■	G	E	T	■	G	L	E	N
E	S	T	E	E	■	O	L	E	■	S	H	Y	L	Y
C	H	E	R	R	Y	T	O	M	A	T	O	■	■	■
L	E	N	A	■	A	T	V	■	P	R	U	N	E	D
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T	A	T	E	■	S	R	S	■	O	Y	S	T	E	R

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Storm brewing in Foxboro?

Patriots weighing options as remainder of NFL goes batty on first day of free agency ◗ Welker's status still up in the air ◗ Pats lose guard, tender TE

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▶ Wes Welker seems ready to tiptoe through the free-agent waters, according to reports

The Patriots were relatively quiet in the infant hours of the NFL's free-agency period, which began at 4 p.m. yesterday, but there is certainly a sense that a signing storm could be brewing in Foxboro.

ESPN's Adam Schefter reported that Wes Welker is going to test the market and that it "may take a little time" for him to find a landing spot. Earlier in the day the NFL Network's Ian Rapoport said that Welker was still waiting on his first formal contract offer from the Patriots.

Welker could have several suitors in the coming days, including the Texans, Broncos, Colts, Dolphins and Cowboys.

WEEI.com reported that it is unlikely the Patriots will target Giants wide receiver Victor Cruz, as they would have to give up a first-round pick to New York.

New England did see a player leave the franchise as the Colts nabbed offensive guard Donald Thomas.

Thomas joined the Pats in 2011 and was a valuable backup, particularly last season when Logan Mankins and Dan Connolly went down with injuries.

Tampa Bay and Cleveland inquired about trading with the Pats for backup quarterback Ryan Mallett, according to Jeff Howe of the Boston Herald.

The Patriots did take care of one in-house issue yesterday as they tendered an offer to restricted free-agent tight end Michael Hoomanawanui, according to ESPN. Hoomanawanui helped the Pats' depth at the tight end position last season when starter Rob Gronkowski went down with an arm injury, and he seems to be in the Patriots' plans going forward.

Matt Burke
matthew.burke@metro.us

NFL free agency

A look at the bigger signings and releases across the league from Day 1:

- **Wide receiver Mike Wallace** agreed to a five-year, $60 million deal with Miami, according to ESPN.
- **The Eagles cut cornerback Nnamdi Asomugha** after they could not come to terms on a restructured deal, according to ESPN.
- **The Bills released quarterback Ryan Fitzpatrick** despite having signed the former Harvard QB to a six-year, $59 million contract in October 2011.

Metro's NHL power rankings | by Rich Slate

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1 BLACKHAWKS (21-2-3)
Somewhere, the '72 Miami Dolphins popped champagne when the Blackhawks went down.

2 DUCKS (18-3-3)
Don't look now, but the Ducks are only six points (three wins) behind the Blackhawks. Given Chicago's injuries at the moment, I might even like Anaheim's chances against them in the playoffs. Alas, we're still a month and a half away.

3 BRUINS (17-3-3)
The B's and Canadiens are in a virtual dead heat. They have even split their first two games (with both winning on the road). It feels like they're building toward another playoff series this spring.

4 CANADIENS (17-5-4)
The Canadiens have won three games in a row and they are 6-1-3 in their last 10 games. Their goal differential is plus-18 and they are 9-2-2 on the road. Montreal plays just twice this week.

5 PENGUINS (15-8-0)
The Penguins were the hottest team in the Eastern Conference heading into last night's showdown with Boston. It's a huge week for Pittsburgh, as they see the B's twice, as well as the Rangers and the Maple Leafs. We'll see what they're made of.

6 KINGS (14-8-2)
The defending Stanley Cup champs are the hottest team in the Western Conference: They are 8-2-0 in their last 10 games and 9-2-1 at the Staples Center. Both of their goaltenders are legit.

7 HURRICANES (14-9-1)
One team was added to the higher rung of the rankings this week, but just like last week, there is an enormous drop-off to the mid-level teams. Alexander Semin has 19 assists and is playing very well for Carolina.

8 WILD (13-9-2)
The Wild have played well lately and they've been great at home all season (9-2-1). Their goal differential of minus-1 and road record (4-7-1) say that they are frauds, as they also reside in the West's worst division: Northwest.

9 LEAFS (15-10-1)
The Leafs have receded to their more fitting level after hitting a tough portion of their schedule. They are 5-4-1 in their last 10 games, but they play the Jets twice this week, which could help matters.

10 SENATORS (13-8-5)
If there was an award for playing hard, the Senators would be a runaway favorite. Unfortunately, this isn't Little League. Ottawa is getting the most out of its limited roster at the moment.

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NCAA PREVIEW
+ Tournament Bracket
March 15th
Full bracket breakdown – we'll discuss the best and worst of each region.

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March 15th
Metro's seasonal special section featuring dance, performing arts, music and more!

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March 29th
Metro takes a closer look at the coming season of America's pastime.

EARTH DAY ISSUE
April 19th
Climate change, endangered species, recycling – a progress report on planet Earth.

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Sports in brief

Boldin stunned by trade to San Fran

NFL. Wide receiver Anquan Boldin, who is currently traveling in Africa on a charity mission, was shocked to hear he was traded to the 49ers from the Ravens this week in exchange for a sixth-round draft pick.

"You know, for me it was an initial shock because I had no clue that I was going to be traded," Boldin told ESPN. "It was shocking at first ... but I mean it — for me it is also a good thing. When I look at the [49ers] and what they're about, and as a football team,

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the talent that they have, I think it's a good, good place." **MATT BURKE**

Notre Dame to join ACC this year

NCAA. Notre Dame athletics, sans football, will join the ACC and leave the Big East beginning on July 1.

The Irish will not have to pay an exit fee. **METRO/MB**

Napoli a candidate at DH with Ortiz out? Not so fast

First baseman looking like strong addition to Red Sox so far this spring
Health always an issue Farrell wants to keep things relatively simple

Heading into spring training, there was some concern regarding newly acquired first baseman Mike Napoli on whether or not his hip would be durable enough to make it through a full season.

The Red Sox originally offered Napoli a three-year, $39 million contract during MLB's winter meetings, but after reviewing his medicals and two full months later, the team eventually offered him a one-year, $5 million deal with some incentives built in based on performance and number of games played.

In doing so, the Red Sox acknowledged there were some concerns with his hip, but so far this spring, Napoli has put those concerns to a halt.

The 31-year-old has done everything the team has asked and played well defensively at first base. He was primarily a catcher until 2010, when he started splitting time between first base and behind the plate. This year he is strictly a first baseman.

24 Number of home runs Napoli has averaged over the past five seasons. He belted 30 in 113 games in the 2011 season.

"Every day I come to the park and I don't even think about catching," Napoli told reporters this week. "I don't think about it anymore. I've let it go. I think I'm comfortable now. Before I was iffy. I wasn't sure. I didn't really know what I was doing over there. It's a lot better."

Napoli is coming off of a down year in which he hit just .227. The year prior, 2011, he had his best year as a professional, hitting .320 with 30 home runs and 75 RBIs. Judging by his performances so far early in the spring, he is on his way to getting back to his 2011 form.

In five games, going into yesterday, he was 4-for-11 with two home runs and five runs batted in. He also has played very well at first. He is itching to get to Boston, as his swing is perfect for Fenway Park with the Green Monster in left field.

With the news of designated hitter David Ortiz likely to miss some time to start this season, and with remaining questions about Napoli's hip, some have suggested Napoli might be a good candidate to DH.

Manager John Farrell doesn't see things that way, as he views Napoli as a full-time first baseman.

"I haven't seen that's necessary," said Farrell to reporters. "If there wasn't as much advancement on the defensive side, then you might say that there's a different combination of players that would fill out this roster. I'm not excluding anyone that's in camp here, but he's made such strides defensively."

With the way things have played out so far, the one-year, $5 million contract the team gave Napoli might be the steal of the offseason.

Ryan Hannable
sports@metro.us

BOSTON GLOBE

▶ Mike Napoli has impressed this spring in Fort Myers, Fla.

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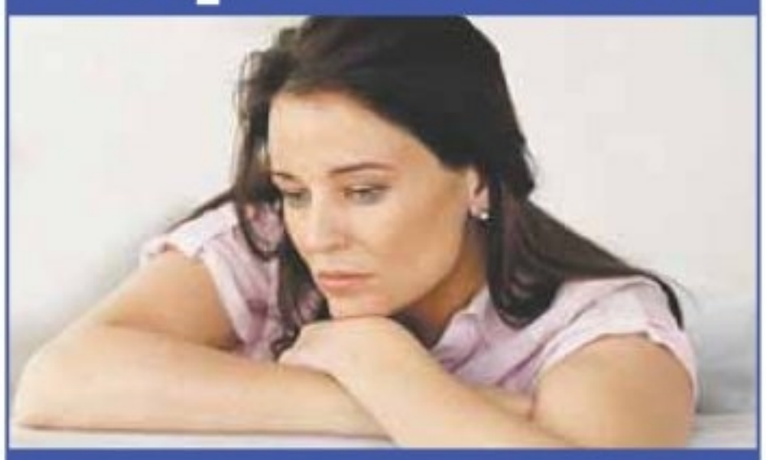

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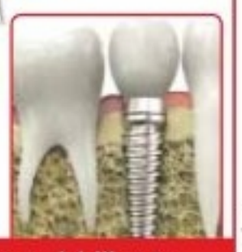

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at home with metro

A really good reason to move to Milton

Are you sick of city living but can't bear to leave behind the excitement of city life? The town, just eight miles from Boston, offers a charming compromise

Back in the 17th and 18th centuries, farmland constituted Milton as far as the eye could see.

You can still feel that rustic charm from 417 Hillside St., a Cape-style home with an attached barn and undeveloped setting in the Scott's Woods Historic District. Yet, it's only eight miles from Boston.

"It almost feel like you're in Vermont," says realtor Carolyn Cahill. "The property abuts the Blue Hills.

"People love the proximity to Boston, but also you can feel like you've escaped."

Almost to another time, perhaps. A vintage sign — that will stay with the property — tells of a former owner, Samuel Holmes, and gives a date for when the house was first built: 1810. But it seems Mr. Holmes' life has faded into history.

"Not much is known about Holmes, I don't know if he's important. It's likely the sign was given out by the historical society at some point," says Cahill.

According to Cahill, the Cape house was originally part of a larger property that included a much bigger house. The lot was subdivided in 2006 and the main house is now a separate home at number 427.

"Also, we do know that the house was nicknamed The Jug, which meant a pen or small enclosure," says Cahill. "That was probably because of its small size. The current owner's great-grandfather was a Latin professor at Harvard, and this house was used for troubled boys, to help the community."

At some point, the breezeway was added to connect to a lovely old-style barn.

"The barn is a replica," says Cahill. "The original apparently was devastated in the blizzard of '78 and rebuilt. The barn has such potential for development.

"This house is surrounded by million-dollar homes. You cannot overimprove this house."

Linda Laban
linda.laban@metro.us

This is what the kitchen looks like inside The Jug.

The barn connects to the house via a breezeway.

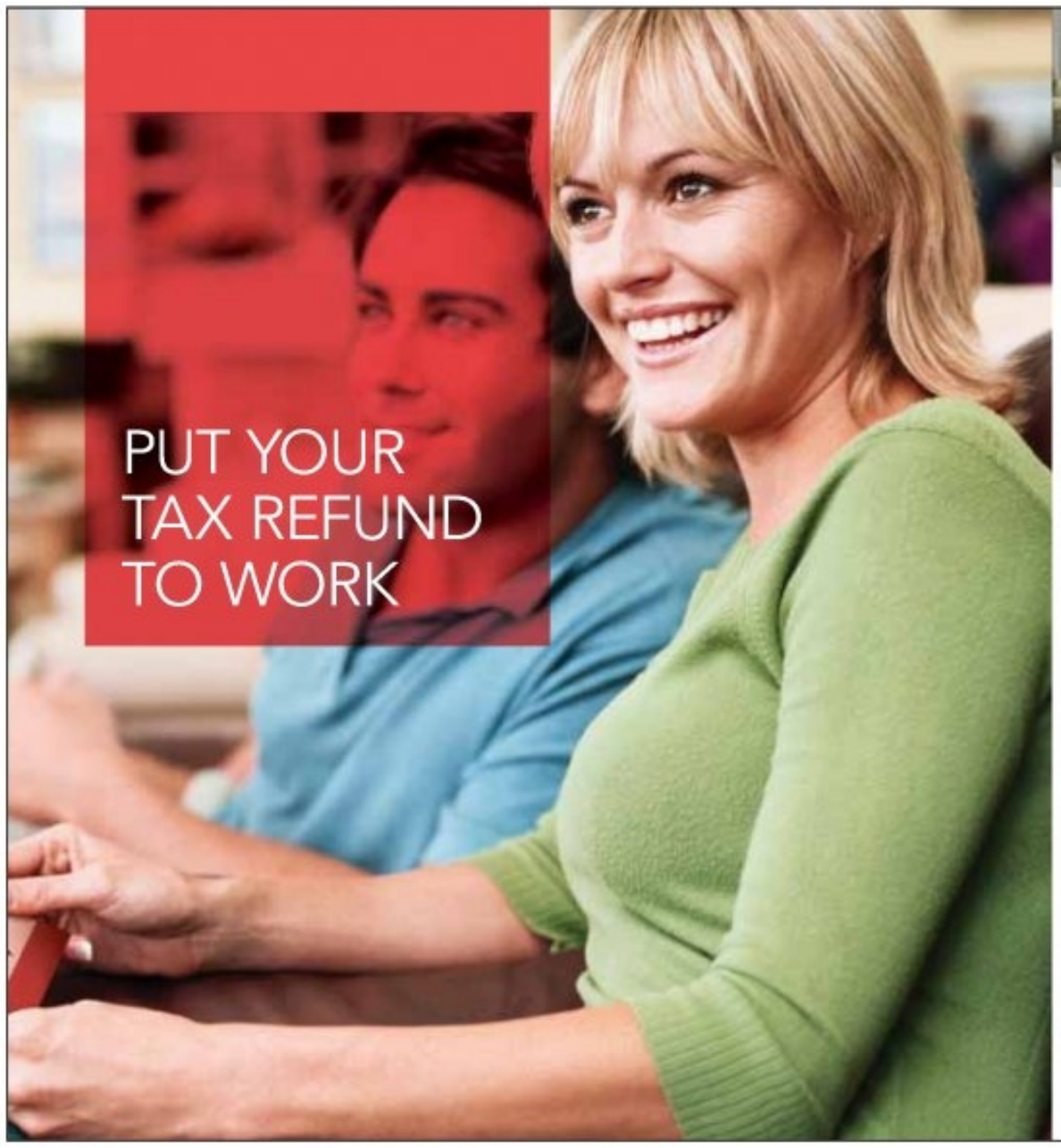
It's Milton, not Vermont!

Buy now

417 Hillside St. is a single-family Cape with approximately 1,000 square feet of living space, two beds and two baths. It's set on almost two acres with a one-car garage. Original interior features include two fireplaces and wide-plank flooring. Listing price: $649,000. Agents: Laura and Carolyn Cahill, RE/MAX Landmark. 617-947-6219. www.cahillproperties.com

Sun shines in the bedroom.

CAHILL PROPERTIES



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at home with metro

Boston booms as workers

- Remember that Onion article last week making fun of the Hub for not being a real city?
- We suggest that those writers wake up and take a look at the latest real estate statistics

▶ The Fort Point district is really lighting up Boston real estate.

Boston's real estate market, often overshadowed by the skyscrapers of New York and government-fueled growth in Washington, D.C., is seeing a boom in construction as developers financed with cheap debt seek to profit from a growing workforce of educated young adults and strength in the technology and life-sciences industries. The office-vacancy rate is among the lowest of major U.S. markets, and tenants are occupying new space at almost triple the national average.

"You have a city that has biotech and other thriving industries, and some big-name financial services," said John Garth, managing director at Pembrook Capital Management LLC, a New York-based real estate investor looking to finance apartment construction in Boston. "It's a huge draw for young people, and that creates lots of demand for rental apartments as well as new office space and other construction."

The fourth-quarter office-vacancy rate in the Boston metro area was 10.9 percent, ranking it among the best-performing big markets in the country and less than the 15.4 percent national average, according to brokerage CBRE Group Inc. Net absorption — the increase in occupied space — was 2.8 percent in 2012, compared with 1 percent nationwide. That's helping to spur building while construction in much of the

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By Attorney George Warshaw

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Aside from a bequest, you can give all or a portion of the residue of your estate (i.e. after payment of all debts and bequests.)

For example, "I leave the rest and residue of my estate (or a percentage) to Tenacity to sponsor as many children as possible in its "Middle School Academy."

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GWA

George Warshaw is a well-known attorney and author. He is a supporter of both the MSPCA and Tenacity. Contact him at metro@warshawlaw.com if you wish to make a donation through your will.

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say no to suburbs

▶ This is 2013: lines to get into a place in the Seaport district.

"You have a city that has biotech and other thriving industries, and some big-name financial services. It's a huge draw for young people, and that creates lots of demand for rental apartments as well as new office space and other construction."

JOHN GARTH, MANAGING DIRECTOR AT PEMBROOK CAPITAL MANAGEMENT LLC

$3.8M

Construction spending in Boston increased an estimated 37 percent in the year ended June 30 to $3.83 billion, the most since 2008, according to the mayor's office. The market is hot enough that some developers are considering building offices without having landed anchor tenants.

rest of the country stagnates, said Arthur Jones, a senior managing economist for CBRE.

Boston has attracted major office owners including Tishman Speyer Properties LP and Blackstone Group LP. The largest U.S. office real estate investment trust, Boston Properties Inc., is based in the Hub and owns marquee properties such as John Hancock Tower and Prudential Center.

"In the last 24 months, suburban tech firms have been looking to relocate into town," said Andrew Hoar, president and co-managing partner at CBRE/New England, a joint venture partner with CBRE. "For many other markets, it's the other way around. The young graduates in this town don't want to commute." **BLOOMBERG**

▶ Commercial office space is at a premium in East Cambridge.

Skanska plans

Skanska USA, the American division of Stockholm-based construction and engineering firm Skanska AB, in December acquired a parcel of land in Boston's Seaport district from Morgan Stanley for $33 million and is planning an office building to accommodate spillover demand from low-vacancy areas like East Cambridge, said Shawn Hurley, executive vice president. The company would build even without having a tenant signed first, known as speculative construction.

"At this point we'd go ahead with a spec project," Hurley said in an interview at Skanska's Boston office. "The office market in East Cambridge is very healthy and has very little vacancy. This area becomes an alternative."

The risk of accelerating growth in areas like the Seaport and Cambridge is that rising rents may drive tenants back into the suburbs, according to a fourth-quarter report by Cassidy Turley. In the Seaport, office rents for top-quality buildings have risen to $54 a square foot from $48 a year ago, putting rates on par with the historic Back Bay area, the brokerage said.

Less affordable

"While tech companies and startups are primarily responsible for South Boston's renaissance, we are watching to see what happens when their leases are up," Cassidy Turley said. "The Seaport may not be the affordable option it was even just 18 months ago."

The construction isn't solely in the Seaport. The Longwood Medical and Academic Area also has seen an increase, driven by the expansion of medical facilities. A partnership headed by National Development broke ground in June on the Longwood Center, a research center with Dana-Farber Cancer Institute as anchor tenant.

ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

▶ The market is suddenly booming in South Boston.

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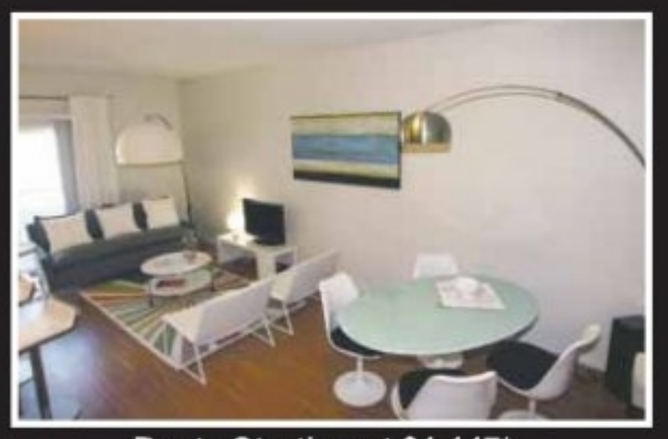

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How to Hire a Contractor:	10:00 -11:00 am
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